

Timberbank Times

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Principal's Message

The holiday season is fast approaching and with our progress reports done, our staff and students continue to work hard at teaching and learning. We want to thank all of you for taking part in our parent-teacher interviews. This was an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress and plan for future success.

Timberbank would like to welcome newly-elected Trustee Manna Wong to Ward 20. We certainly look forward to working with her and can't wait to show her around our wonderful school on January 20th when she visits us.

Our Timberbank Band was featured this year with the Markham Concert Band at their annual celebrations on November 30th at the Markham Flato Theatre. What an incredible opportunity for our students to perform along side a professional Concert Band. They were incredible! Congratulations to all of our band members, Mr. Manning and Ms Lai for their commitment and dedication to our music program.

As part of the Timberbank tradition, we will be having our annual food drive collection for Agincourt Community Services. Please feel free to send in any non-perishable food items with your child. You may also bring items to our "Seasonal Celebrations" - Winter Concert on Thursday, December 18th at 6:30pm at our school. We hope that you will be able to come to our concert to enjoy the various classroom presentations.

We are asking once again on behalf of our School Council for any donations towards our Winter Draw which will take place during our concert. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

We hope that you all have a great holiday break, celebrating with family and friends. Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous 2015!

Mrs. Anna Epitropou



Upcoming Dates

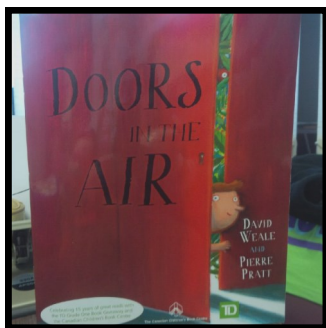
- Dec. 18 "Seasonal Celebrations" - Winter Concert @ 6:30pm in the gym
- Dec. 19 **Last Day of School / Pyjama Day / Caroling at 9am in the gym**
- Jan. 5 First Day Back after the Holidays
- Jan. 6 School Support Team Meeting - pm
- Jan. 12 "Rocks and Rings" - learning how to curl
- Jan. 12 Parent School Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
- Jan. 20 Trustee Wong visits Timberbank
- Jan. 21 Kinder Café from 9 - 9:30am in the library with the Public Health Nurse
- Jan. 22 Agility Challenge - all students (indoor track/play day)
- Jan. 23 P.A. Day - no school for students
- Jan. 29 Grade 6 Extended French applications due to the main office
- Feb. 3 School Support Team Meeting - pm

Library News

In November, the TD Grade 1 give away book Doors in the Air arrived at Timberbank ! All students in grade 1 received a free copy of this book to keep and enjoy at home. Please use this as an opportunity for a celebration of reading with your child.

And don't forget to continue submitting your "Just Read It" submissions on-line at:

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca/libraries/cat.asp?schoolNo=10>

**Save Your Wrapping Paper!**

It's a waste that we only celebrate Christmas for one day and then throw away the wrapping paper. So, the Eco-Club decided to have a wrapping paper collage contest.

What can you do to help?

Save the wrapping paper from the presents. Bring your wrapping paper to school after the holidays. You will be creating your collage in class with your teacher.

May the best collage win!!

Bo and Jennifer (gr 6 eco-reps)



Congratulations to:

Ms Namasivayam's class for being our "Walking Wednesdays" winner for the most participation.

Don't forget to do something good for the environment and healthy for yourself: **Walk/Bike to school on Wednesdays!**

SCHOOL COUNCIL'S CORNER**Our First "Family Engagement Night" Was a Hit with Parents and Students!**

Thank you to all of those who participated in the first of two Family Engagement Nights occurring this school year. These sessions are brought to you by your school council and funded by a Government of Ontario "Parents Reaching Out" grant. The Nov. 25th workshop was focused on how we can help our children succeed in school and in life. It was very well received by parents who attended. We hope you will consider joining us for the next one!

Sample feedback from participants:

- "Very informative"
- "Awesome workshop"
- "This is a very good program for parents"
- "Great evening of learning and fun"

Our kids had an amazing time too in the FitSmart session. Thank you to Adam Theodorou from FitStudios for delivering an energetic and entertaining program for the students.

Fundraising at this Event: \$259 was raised from the sale of holiday items donated by Hallmark.

**Next Family Engagement Night:
Coming in March 2015**

Next School Council Meeting:
Monday January 12th

All parents are welcome. Join us in the Library at 6:30pm

School Council Long Term Goal
TIMBERBANK PLAYGROUND FUNDRAISING
TRACKER



Thank You For Supporting:
Movie Nights
Spring Fair
Donations
Move-a-Thon
Raffles
Fuel for Kids



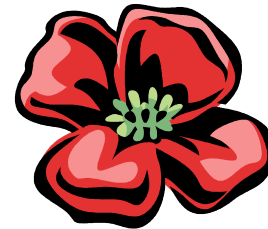
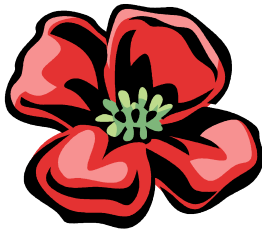
5 Year Goal --> \$50,000

Note: The existing Timberbank playground is decaying and will soon need replacing before it becomes a safety risk

Remembering!

On November 7, 2014 we held our Remembrance Day ceremony in our gymnasium. This year was a very special year for us because we had Veteran George Greig from Local 614 share his stories with us. He answered all of our questions and we learned a great deal about the Second World War. We are very lucky to have had soldiers such as Veteran Greig fight for our freedom.

Our ESL students recited the famous poem "In Flanders Field" by John McCrae. Mr. Rands's class performed a beautiful dramatic tableau for all of the school. It was very emotional and Veteran Greig was very appreciative of our school's commitment to commemorating this important day!



Gentle Reminders:

PLEASE do not do U-turns on Timberbank!

- **Cars dropping off** students need to pay attention to the crosswalk and clearly posted signage for NO Stopping. Take a moment and move down the street and make your turns safely. This continues to be a significant safety concern. You are welcome to drive into the parking lot, drop off your child and continue on. Do NOT block the driveway! Please be mindful of your driving around all school neighbourhoods. We want our students and community to be SAFE!!!
- **Electronic games/devices** should not be brought to school and cell phones, if necessary, must be turned off, and secured in your child's backpack. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
- **Yard Supervision** times are 8:30 to 8:45 am / 12: 25 to 12:35 pm / 3:25 to 3:40 pm. Students should not arrive earlier unless they are taking part in a supervised event. Students who go home for lunch are asked to return no earlier than 12:30 pm.
- **Hats, water and appropriate footwear** are recommended for play and gym class. All students are asked to have a pair of indoor and outdoor shoes. With the cold weather arriving, it is very important that you dress for the weather!!



Reminder!

- **Flu Season** is upon us. Several Flu Clinics are scheduled. For more information about the flu call Service Ontario at 1-877-844-1944.

- When reporting your child's absence, if they have been diagnosed with a communicable (contagious) illness, it is VERY important that we are notified in the office (e.g. Chickenpox).

Staying “On T.R.A.C.K.”

At Timberbank, we believe in having our students stay on track. This recognition program raises awareness of each student's contribution to personal and social responsibility. Our staff and students focus on character development, highlighting the positive contributions and actions of all members of the Timberbank School Community. Through our regular assemblies these qualities of character will be recognized and honoured.

Congratulations to the following students for being recognized for their “**Respect and Responsibility**” and staying “On T.R.A.C.K.”.

Mr. O'Connor's class – Bo, Elbert, Feroz, Kitty, Mathangy and Mu Lei

Mrs. Corrieri's class – Christina, Fahad, Kajan, Kate, Samuel and Vithushika

Ms Persaud's class – Ava, Daniel, Jenny, Kenneth and Mariam

Mr. Rands's class – Abinaya, Kevin, Lukas, Miki and Vivian

Ms Boulos's class – Georgia, Joey, Sakanan and Zainab

Mrs. Ball/Mr. Mirshahi's class – Cici, Emily, Harriny, Philip and Shirley

Ms Namasivayam's class – Abisha, Cynthia, Derek, Naiya and Ryan

Ms Mourad/Mrs. Ho's class – Alysha, Christina, Sean and Sherice

Ms Sookraj's class – Cassidy, Farhan and Matthew

Ms Lo/Mrs. Kerr's class – Aizah, Allan, Bryan and Gina

On November 25th, we celebrated with the students who received the “Respect and Responsibility” ON TRACK awards. They were asked if they could make our school better, what would they do...

- Build an elevator to make the second floor accessible
- Give our teacher-librarian suggestions on what books to buy
- Buy more computers
- Become even more eco-friendly e.g., lights out every day at a certain time
- Have a talent show
- Introduce ourselves to new teachers or new students when they come to our school
- Do more fundraisers so that we can buy the playground that we want
- Have a cafeteria
- Have a breakfast program
- Start a new program like Scouts
- Have school-wide contests

Our students presented some very good ideas and things to think about possibly doing here at Timberbank.



Timberbank's “Seasonal Celebrations”



Thursday, December 18th @ 6:30pm - Don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item for our Holiday Food Drive (e.g. canned items, pasta)



Purchase your “Rudolph Red Nose” for \$3 and support Toronto Foundation for Student Success - Flyer to purchase “noses” was sent home on Dec. 4th. All “noses” will be distributed to students on December 19th for our caroling in the morning.



The Grade 5 Government Trip



This year on November 10, 2014 the grade 5 social studies class went on a field trip to City Hall and Queens Park to learn about government. It was arranged by our teacher, Mrs. Corrieri. We were all really excited.

First, the bus picked us up and drove us to City Hall. The minute we got off the bus, everyone was really excited because there was a special guest to speak to us. After we got off, we walked to the front entrance and then took a group photo. It was a really nice photo. We were about to enter the building when Mrs. Corrieri was talking to our City Councillor! She asked him if he was ready to meet us. Then we got in the building and climbed up the stairs to the councillor, Norm Kelly's office! We went in his office and were greeted by one of his staff. Then she went to call Councillor Kelly. He came out of his office and said Hello and talked about government, what he does in his job, what we have to do as Canadian Citizens and more. One of Councillor Kelly's staff gave all of us a Toronto Pin as a



Thank You gift for coming and visiting them. They also gave us Norm Kelly's business card. Some people got his autograph. We took a group photo with him in his office.

Councillor Kelly told us that he will take us to the Council Chamber Room and show us around. We took an elevator to the Chamber Room. When we got in, Councillor Kelly let us look around the room. It was a really nice and beautiful room. There was a bunch of chairs for the councillors, and seats for other people to watch the debate. After we looked around the room Norm Kelly called us to come and sit on one of the councillor chairs! That was really special to us because no one who visited City Hall ever got to sit on the councillor chairs. Councillor Kelly talked to us about what items were on the desk in front of the councillors and what would happen in a debate. Then, Councillor Kelly answered our questions. We also took a group photo with Norm Kelly in the chamber room as well.



Councillor Kelly took more than an hour away from his work time to take us around the building, talk to us about government, and answering our questions. We really appreciated it. After meeting Norm Kelly we ate lunch and had a break.



After we ate lunch we walked to Queens Park. It was about a 20 minute walk. While we walked we passed through "Hospital Street" which had Sick Kids, Toronto General Hospital, Princess Margaret, and Mount Sinai Hospital. There were other schools that got to attend the "Queens Park's Grand Tour". When we got in we were greeted by our tour guide.

She took us to a room where we put our jackets and bags in.



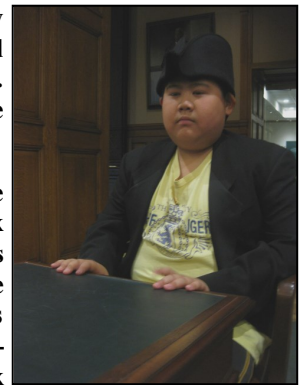
First she took us to the chamber room and the teachers got to take pictures because there wasn't a debate going on. The tour guide also talked to us about what happens in the chamber room. She also talked to us about the carvings on the walls and the funny joke that the carvers made of Queen Victoria.

After we exited the chamber room we saw a big picture with the first council debate. The picture was in the middle part of the building. From there, you can see the east and west part of the building. On the east side, the building was made out of wood. On the west side, the building was made out of marble. The west side is made out of marble because a long time ago, workers were fixing the roof with fire. When it was lunch they left the fire on the roof and burnt the whole west side of the building! A few years later, while another worker was fixing the floor in the middle part of the building his foot broke the floor and he broke his leg. They found out that the fire travelled underneath the ground and burnt the floor.



We went to both sides of the building: the east and the west. They both had a library/museum. They had different types of rocks and old things from the past. The tour guide also showed us the 2 maces. One had really cool diamonds on it. She told the story about the three maces and how one got stolen and another got burnt.

Then we went to a room where we planned our own little debate. We voted who would be the speaker and Mrs. Corrieri chose the clerk and Sergeant-in-Arms. The speaker was Abira, the clerk was Kashwine, and the Sergeant-at-Arms was Mirror. Other people were the MPPs. Our topic was to debate if we should get 10 minutes of break time between each class. The speaker, clerk, and sergeant-of-arms had to dress up in special clothing. The people who think "no" about our topic won the debate.



After, we took a group photo on the stairs at Queens Park. We were supposed to take a picture with MPP Soo Wong but sadly she wasn't there. Her helper gave us special pins.



We would like to thank Mrs. Corrieri for arranging this field trip. We had so much fun. We learned a lot about government and about the 2 buildings we went to. It was amazing. We will never forget this field trip.



Our Band's Symposium Performance!

Written by: Abinaya I.

Our school band went to a musical symposium on November 20th and we were the youngest group there. It was such a wonderful experience for the Band members because we all got to meet great musicians and conductors.

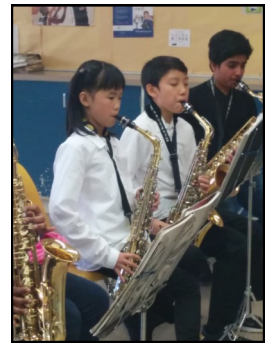
However, before our performance, we split into our instrumental sections for half an hour, so we can learn tips on playing our instrument. Each group had an expert player on the specific instrument. For example, flutes had an expert player on the flute. The expert teachers taught us how to play the instrument more effectively and correctly.

After we were all finished learning from our experts, we went to the music room and looked at minor details in the song, "Frosty the Snowman". In addition, the band had a great time learning and playing with different musicians and conductors. We are going to use all the tips we learned during this trip throughout our musical journey!



A musician can only develop skills through effective learning and practice and this is what our band students will continue to do! To master any instrument, it requires skill and practice. This is something that we learned on our trip to the Musical Symposium.

When we got back to school, we continued with our band practicing with Ms Lai and Mr. Manning, our incredible music teachers! The band is looking forward to the next performance because we are going to use everything we learned at the Musical Symposium to put on the best show ever!



The Timberbank Band Performs @ the Markham Flato Theatre

"I really liked the music and professional orchestra." - Kate

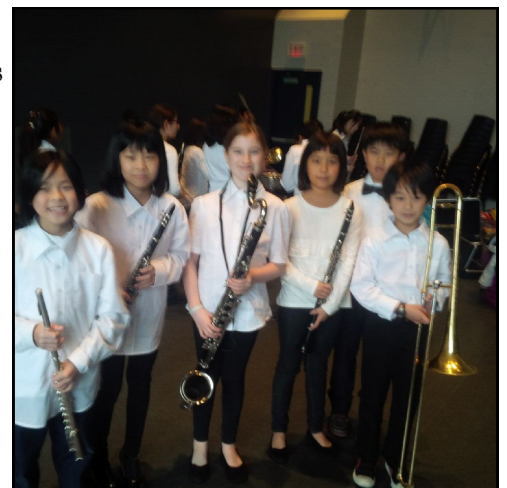
"We got to play with experienced professionals & hear them play." - Caralina

"We had so much fun and we learned how to change the tone of our instrument if it's too sharp or flat." - Elbert

"It was a big stage we got to play on. I learned about how to make different sounds with my instrument." - Lucas



What an incredible experience for our band members. Thanks Mr. Manning for making it happen!!



Saying Goodbye... We would like to wish Ms Sookraj all the best and thank her for all of her hardwork with our Kindergarten Class. She will be teaching at Lillian PS in January. We also want to welcome back Mrs. Montgomery to Timberbank!

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week - November 17th to 21st, 2014

At Timberbank, our motto is "Timberbank is Teamwork". We are proud because we believe in a "Bully-free" school where all of our students have a goal of being "ON TRACK" every day and not just during this awareness week. We remember that being "ON TRACK" means that we promise to always make sure that Timberbank is a caring and safe place where everyone can learn, play and have fun!!

To celebrate this week, we had a special group called "Dynamix" come and work with all of our students on various positive team-building activities. The students worked together in groups to accomplish different challenges. It was a great day!!



NEWCOMER KIDS



The Newcomer Kids Program is awesome because the teachers plan many activities and games for us. We also get to learn the rules of ping pong and how to play. We also get to go on fun field trips, for example, Ripley's Aquarium. The teachers also help you finish your homework. You also make lots of new friends and get to learn new words that you could use when you are speaking English. The program is a fantastic program to be in. I liked the program because it was really fun doing all the different activities. We can do games after we finish our homework. The Newcomer



program is the best, we get to do all fun activities, eat snacks, get yummy treats and pizza. This was very nice of the teachers. I made new friends and that was so cool. I like this program because I can learn a lot of new things in this program . **By: Newcomer Kids**